



Kansas Health Policy Authority

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Kansas Health Policy Authority seeks input from public *KHPA to hold Town Hall Meeting in Pittsburg on November 21*

Calling public input as vital to the agency's success, the Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) and KHPA Board has announced a Town Hall Meeting to be held in Pittsburg on November 21. Representatives from the KHPA Board and staff will be on-hand.

"We have organized similar meetings throughout the state and received a great response. We want to bring this opportunity to the Pittsburg area and gain the public's input on the direction of the Kansas health system," said Marci Nielsen, Executive Director. "We want to encourage members of the public and all health stakeholders to join us for the public meetings. Your perspective is vitally important to the work of the Health Policy Authority, and we look forward to hearing your ideas, suggestions, and concerns on ways to improve the health of Kansas."

The meeting will be on Tuesday, November 21, 2006, from 4:00PM to 6:00PM at the Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium, located at 503 North Pine, Pittsburg.

This is an opportunity for Kansans to engage on the subjects of Kansas health policy initiatives and reforms. Kansas will also be able to meet and interact with the staff of KHPA, as well as KHPA Board members.

"The town hall meeting will provide an overview on those Kansas programs that are now within the agency's purview, an update on the work of the agency and its future plans. More importantly, it gives us an opportunity to directly communicate with the public regarding state health problems, listen to their concerns and suggestions, and hear their goals for our agency and health in Kansas," said Nielsen.

On July 1, 2006, KHPA, an independent board-run agency, assumed operational control of the state's Medicaid program and the State Employee Health Benefits Program. The Authority was formed to develop and maintain a coordinated health policy agenda that combines effective purchasing and administration with health promotion oriented public health strategies.

Registering to provide brief testimony can be accomplished by emailing to luke.thompson@khpas.gov or calling 785.296.7762 by 5:00PM on Monday, November 6. If time allows, other presenters may register at the meeting; however, all who testify must bring five written copies of their testimony. Following those presentations, there will be a scheduled period for an open question and answer session.

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Agency Website: www.khpas.gov

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